

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated May 31, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on August 31, 2006. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 12-17 have been amended. Claims 3 and 14 have been canceled. Applicants submit that the amendments do not introduce new matter.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: 134 and 522.

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Fig. 2A and Fig. 2B. These sheets replace the original sheets including Fig. 2A and Fig. 2B and eliminate reference character 134. Rather than amend the Fig. 5A and Fig. 5B, paragraph [0045] of the specification has been amended to properly refer to label 522 that is included in the drawings. An Annotated Sheet Showing Changes to Fig. 2A and Fig. 2B is included. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 USC 112 2nd paragraph, as "the user data" lacks antecedent basis. Applicants submit that amendments made to claim 17 provide antecedent basis for "the user data" in claim 19 and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 12-16 are rejected under 35 USC 101 as being a program, per se, as it is not positively recited that the claims are executed by the processor.

Applicants submit that, as amended, claims 12-16 positively recite execution by a processor and respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4 and 7-20 are rejected as being anticipated by US 6,519,603 (hereinafter "*Bays*"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The elements must be arranged as required by the claim. *In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

In this case, *Bays* does not teach each and every element of the claims. For example, *Bays* does not teach joining an annotation data structure (containing consolidated annotation data) with a set of data (associated with the consolidated annotation data), as recited in independent claims 1, 9, 12 and 17. In fact, Applicants submit that *Bays* fails to mention any type of joining.

Accordingly, Applicants submit claims 1, 9, 12 and 17, as well as their dependents, are allowable and respectfully request withdrawal of these rejections.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U .S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bays in view of official notice. These claims depend from claim 1 which Applicants submit is allowable for reasons discussed above.

Accordingly, Applicants submit these claims are also allowable and respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

Applicants also note that the Examiner has taken official notice that the use of primary keys in relational databases are well known. Applicants submit, however, that while the concept of primary keys, in general, may be well known, the use of primary keys, as recited in claims 5 and 6, is not.

Conclusion

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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Replacement Sheet
10/731,079

ROC920030190US1

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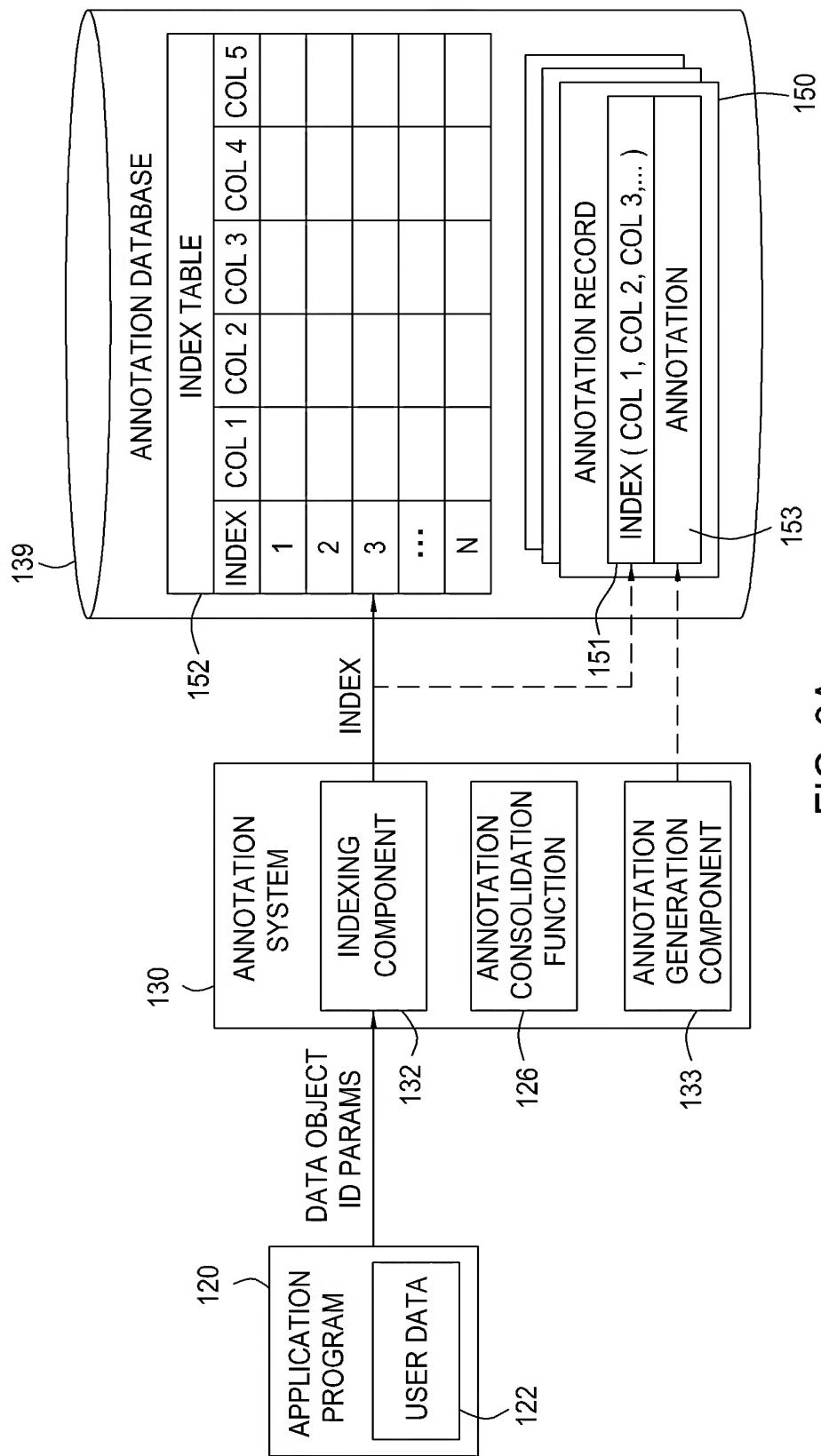


FIG. 2A

Replacement Sheet
10/731,079

ROC920030190US1

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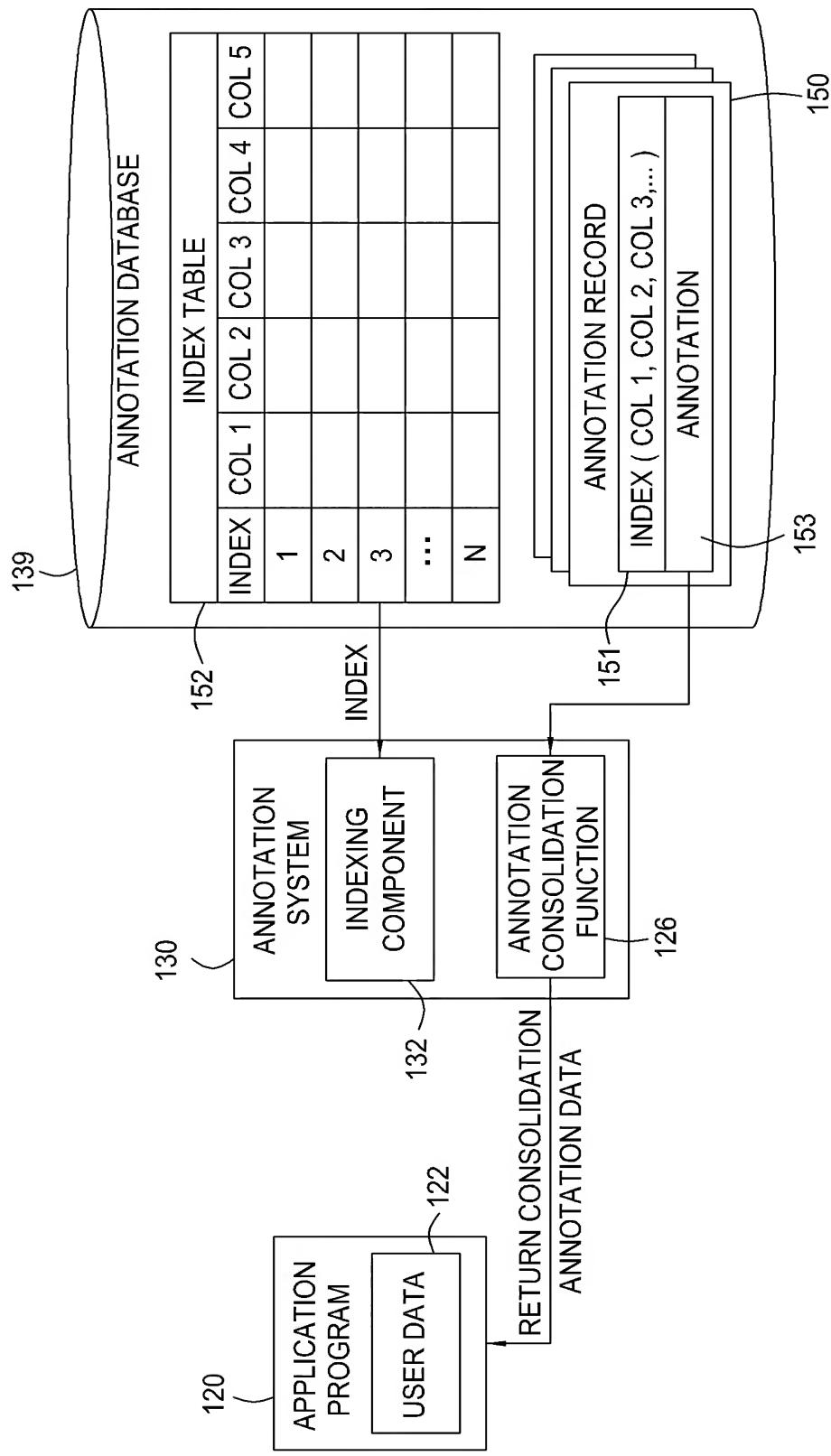


FIG. 2B

Annotated Sheet
10/731,079

ROC920030190US1

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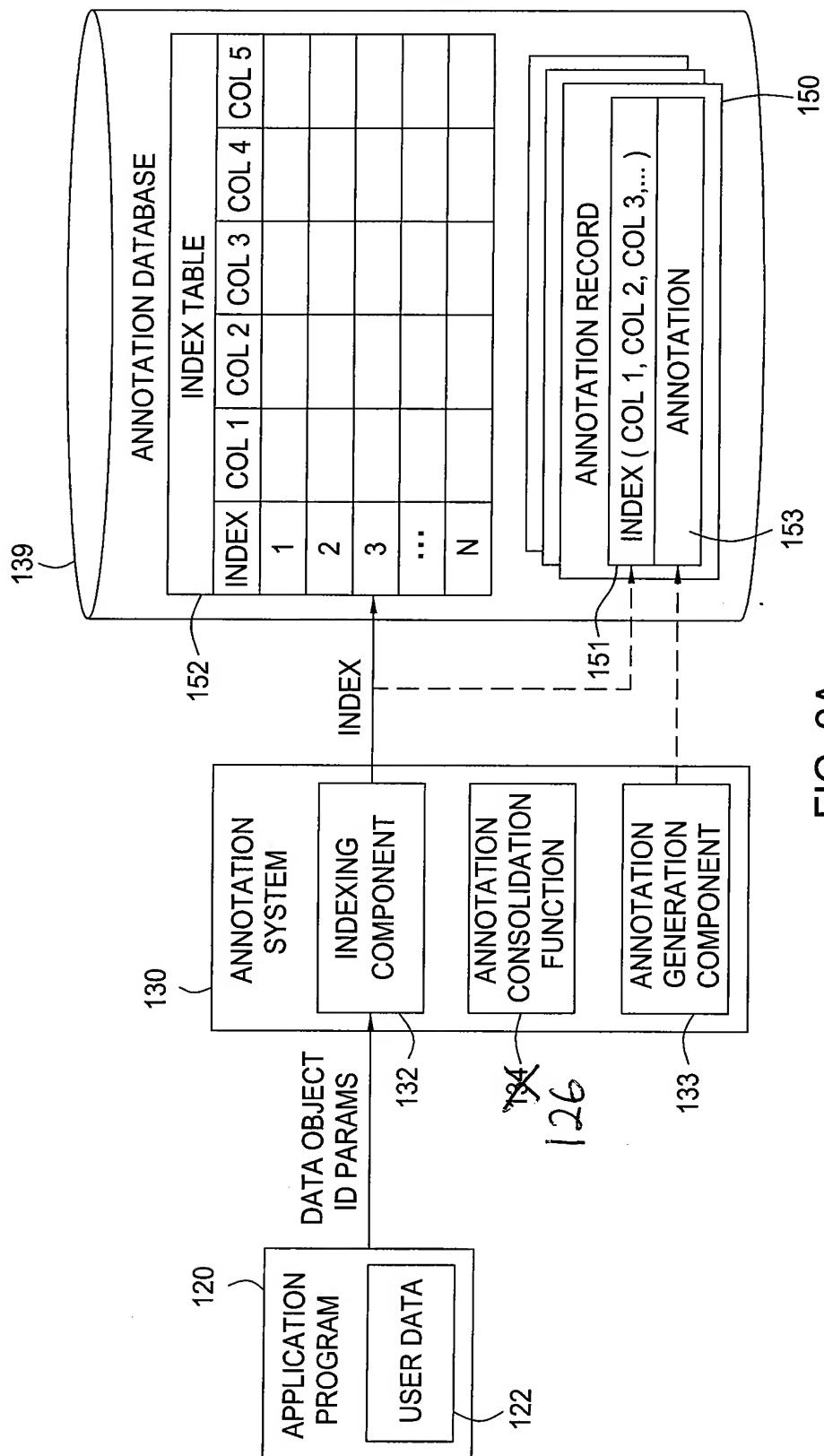


FIG. 2A

Annotated Sheet
10/731,079

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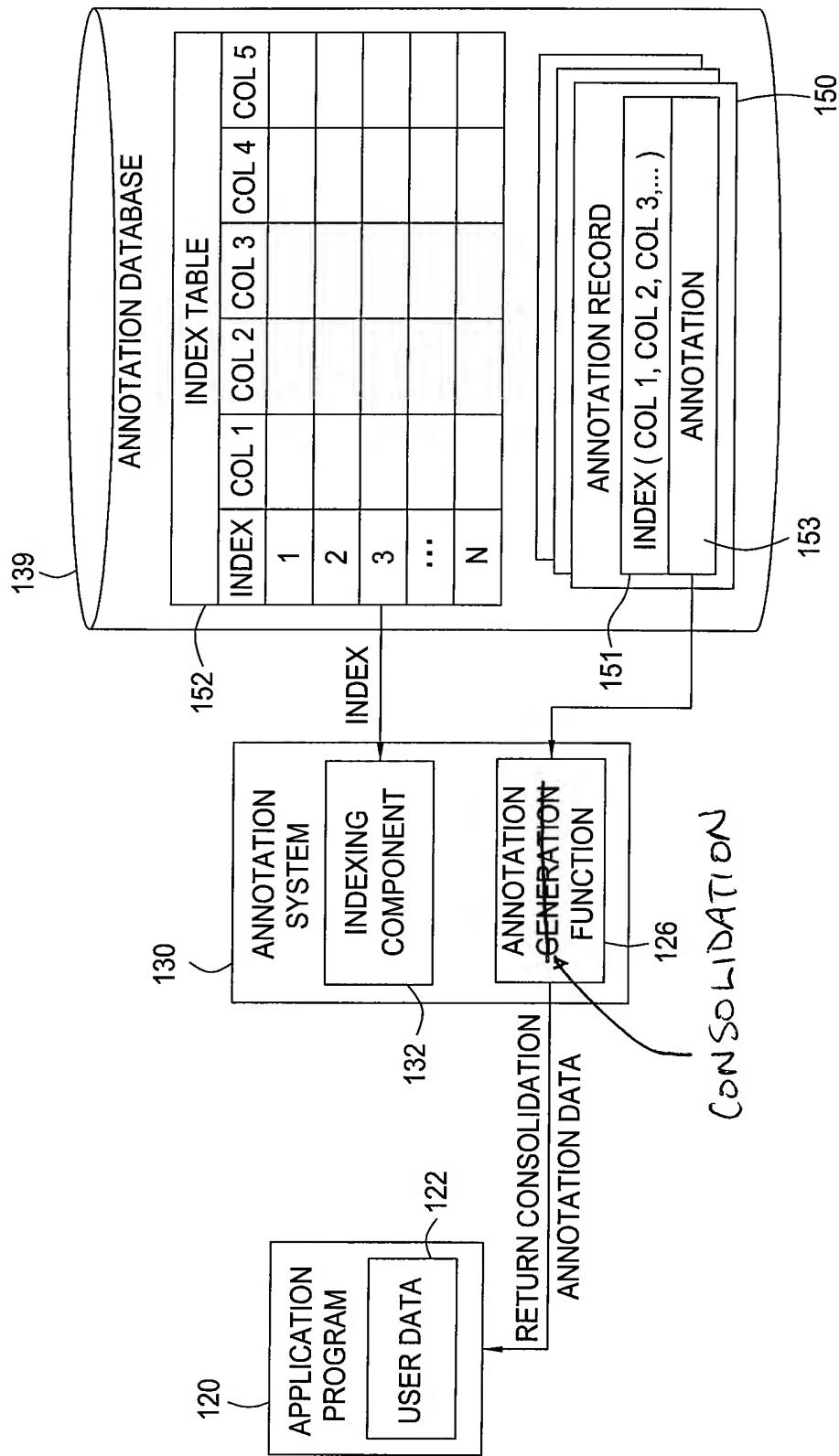


FIG. 2B